

Overview and Objective of the CAWS Process: Collaborative Efforts to Date

- **January 2010:** Corps staff brief HQ Regulatory Chief (Meg Smith) in D.C. on proposed Colorado Front Range water supply projects (issues, time & costs involved to get to a decision point). Meg requests a proposal to increase efficiency of process to reach a decision. Denver Office submits basic CAWS proposal.
- **March & April 2010:** Corps & EPA hold two meetings on major issues related to water supply projects - meeting topics: Conservation & Adaptive Management
- **May 2010:** Joint EPA/Corps collaboration training held at the Keystone Center
- **July 2010:** Facilitated exploratory CAWS meeting between EPA, Corps and CO Department of Natural Resources/Water Conservation Board. Meeting outcomes:
 - All agreed to move forward with CAWS to educate each other on critical issues and consequences of various approaches;
 - Agreement on criteria for addressing issues:
 - ☐ Once agreed upon, resolves the issue for future permits
 - ☐ Involves all three agencies
 - ☐ Results in a shared understanding of what's at stake
 - ☐ Process engages all agencies earlier in process
 - List of issues, developed by group, that could be addressed:
 - ☐ Water conservation standards
 - ☐ Programmatic EIS
 - ☐ Overall need for water supply and storage (deficit; how much demand management; conservation (addressed as part of P&N or mitigation)
 - ☐ Documentation of planning assumptions
 - ☐ Effects on water quality (includes impacts to aquatic ecosystems)
 - ☐ Cumulative impacts
 - ☐ Mitigation
 - ☐ System risk/drought protection
 - ☐ Standards for hydrologic analysis
 - ☐ State admin of permit conditions imposed by Corps/EPA
 - ☐ Buy and dry/interruptible supply contracts (alternatives)
 - Group vote on potential issues led to topics for this meeting
- **July – August 2010:** Corps, EPA & 3rd-party EIS contractor hold four resource-focused meetings to address substantive concerns expressed by EPA and others on Moffat Draft EIS. Topics: baseline; aquatic resources; water quality; geomorphology, groundwater & cumulative effects. Understandings and agreements reached documented, with documents finalized by Corps/EPA management in **November 2010**.
- **April 26, 2011:** 3rd-party contractor will brief Corps, EPA & CO DNR on results of additional work/studies performed.